CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus, comprising:

a graphical user interface employable for one or more file management procedures of a pre-boot operating environment employable with a command line interface.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface allows input from the user to cause one or more of selection and execution of one or more of the one or more file management procedures.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the graphical user interface receives input from the user that corresponds to a pre-determined hotkey, wherein the graphical user interface determines that the input from the user corresponds to the pre-determined hotkey, wherein the graphical user interface employs the input from the user to cause the one or more of selection and execution of one or more of the one or more file management procedures.

4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the graphical user interface receives input from the user that corresponds to a pre-determined menu item, wherein the graphical user interface determines that the input from the user corresponds to the pre-determined menu item, wherein the graphical user interface employs the input from the user to cause the one or more of selection and execution of one or more of the one or more file management procedures.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface communicates with one or more file storage components through employment of one or more of the one or more file management procedures.

6. The apparatus of claim 5 in combination with the one or more file storage components, wherein the one or more file storage components comprise one or more file contents that are readable by the pre-boot operating environment.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the one or more file storage components comply with a file allocation table file system standard that comprises one of FAT, FAT12, FAT16, and FAT32;

wherein the graphical user interface employs the file system standard to display information based on the one or more file contents of the one or more file storage components.

8. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the one or more file storage components comply with a file system standard that is natively supported by the pre-boot operating environment, wherein one or more of the one or more file management procedures comply with the file system standard, wherein the graphical user interface employs the one or more of the one or more file management procedures to display information based on the one or more file contents of the one or more file storage components.

9. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the one or more file storage components comply with a file system standard that is supported by the pre-boot operating environment through employment of an operating environment extension, wherein one or more of the one or more file management procedures comply with the file system standard, wherein the graphical user interface employs the one or more of the one or more file management procedures to display information based on the one or more file contents of the one or more file storage components.

10. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the graphical user interface obtains one or more of the one or more file management procedures from one or more of:

the pre-boot operating environment; and

the one or more file storage components.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the graphical user interface sends one or more requests to the one or more of the pre-boot operating environment and the one or more file storage components, wherein the graphical user interface receives the one or more of the one or more file management procedures from the one or more of the pre-boot operating environment and the one or more file storage components in response to the one or more requests.

12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the graphical user interface displays a list of currently available procedures of the one or more file storage components.

13. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the file storage components comprise one or more file contents, wherein the graphical user interface employs one or more of the one or more file management procedures to navigate through the one or more file contents.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the graphical user interface employs the one or more of the one or more file management procedures to one or more of manipulate and execute one or more of the one or more files of the one or more file storage components.

15. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the graphical user interface employs the one or more of the one or more file management procedures to one or more of manipulate and execute one or more of:

one or more configurations of the file storage component; and

one or more diagnostics of the file storage component.

16. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface displays a list of currently available procedures of the pre-boot operating environment.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the graphical user interface displays a list of currently available procedures of the pre-boot operating environment based on a current selection.

18. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface comprises a shell with one or more of graphics and text.

19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the graphical user interface indicates one or more of:

one or more pre-determined hotkeys; and

one or more pre-determined menus;

through employment of the one or more of graphics and text.

20. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface comprises one or more of computer software and computer firmware that is native to the pre-boot operating environment.

21. The apparatus of claim 1 in combination with the pre-boot operating environment, wherein the pre-boot operating environment comprises an interface between one or more operating systems and one or more firmware components.

22. The apparatus of claim 1 in combination with the pre-boot operating environment, wherein the pre-boot operating environment comprises an extensible firmware interface (EFI) operating environment.

23. A method, comprising the step of:

invoking a graphical user interface through a command line interface for one or more file management procedures of a pre-boot operating environment.

24. The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of:

communicating with one or more file storage components through employment of the graphical user interface.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the step of communicating with the one or more file storage components through employment of the graphical user interface comprises the step of:

obtaining one or more of the one or more file management procedures from one or more of the one or more file storage components and the pre-boot operating environment.

26. The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of:

manipulating one or more files of the file storage component through employment of the graphical user interface.

27. The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of:

executing one or more files of the file storage component through employment of the graphical user interface.

28. The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of:

navigating through one or more files of the file storage component through employment of the graphical user interface.

29. The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of:

providing to a user a shell for the one or more file management procedures of the pre-boot operating environment.

30. An article, comprising:

one or more computer-readable signal-bearing media; and

means in the one or more media for invoking a graphical user interface through a command line interface for one or more file management procedures of a pre-boot operating environment.

31. The article of claim 30, further comprising:

means in the one or more media for communicating with one or more file storage components through employment of the graphical user interface.

32. The article of claim 31, wherein the means in the one or more media for communicating with the one or more file storage components through employment of the graphical user interface comprises:

means in the one or more media for obtaining one or more of the one or more file management procedures from one or more of the one or more file storage components and the pre-boot operating environment.

33. The article of claim 31, further comprising:

means in the one or more media for manipulating one or more files of the file storage component through employment of the graphical user interface.

34. An apparatus, comprising:

means for invoking a graphical user interface through a command line interface for one or more file management procedures of a pre-boot operating environment.

35. The apparatus of claim 34, further comprising:

means for communicating with one or more file storage components through employment of the graphical user interface.

36. The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the means for communicating with the one or more file storage components through employment of the graphical user interface comprises:

means for obtaining one or more of the one or more file management procedures from one or more of the one or more file storage components and the pre-boot operating environment.

37. The apparatus of claim 35, further comprising:

means for manipulating one or more files of the file storage component through employment of the graphical user interface.

* * * * *